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TO

Remove the Disabilities of the Royal Irish Constabulary and the Dublin Metropolitan Police to vote at Parliamentary Elections. A.D. 1893.

**W**HEREAS it is inexpedient that any person otherwise entitled to be registered as a voter should be incapacitated to vote at parliamentary elections by reason of his being employed in or in connexion with the Royal Irish Constabulary or Dublin Metropolitan Police:

Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

10   1. The enactments mentioned in the schedule to this Act are hereby repealed to the extent mentioned in the third column of the said schedule. Repeal.

15   2. Where a constable is or is likely to be, on the day of any election, sent or employed in the discharge of his duty so as to prevent him voting at the polling booth or station at which he would otherwise be entitled by law to vote, the following enactments shall have effect:— Constable on duty to be entitled to vote at any polling station.

20   (1.) Such constable may, at any time within *seven days* before the election, apply to the chief constable for a certificate, and the chief constable shall thereupon give a certificate under his hand, stating the name of the constable, his number in the police force, his number and description on the register of voters, and the fact that he is so sent or employed:

25   (2.) The presiding officer at any polling booth or station shall, on production by such constable of the said certificate, allow him to vote at that booth or station, and shall forthwith cancel the said certificate, and deal with the same in like manner as the counterfoils of voting papers are directed by law to be dealt with:

[Bill 275.]

A.D. 1893.

(3.) No such constable shall, under this section, be entitled to vote at any election at which he would not, but for this section, be entitled to vote, nor more than once in any election, and if he so votes, or attempts to vote, he shall be subject to all the penalties imposed by law on a person personating or attempting to personate a voter at such election :

(4.) In this section,—

(a.) "Constable" includes any person belonging to a police force;

(b.) "Chief constable" includes the inspector general, deputy and assistant inspectors general, district, county, city, and borough inspectors of the Royal Irish Constabulary, and an assistant chief constable, a commissioner or assistant commissioner of the Dublin Metropolitan Police, a head constable, and any other person for the time being in command of a police force, or acting in that capacity ;

(c.) "Register of voters" has the same meaning as in the Ballot Act, 1872.

34 & 36 Vict.  
c. 33.

Registration  
in case of  
temporary  
absence of  
police officer  
on duty.

3. A person otherwise entitled to be registered as a voter at parliamentary elections in respect of the occupation of a dwelling-house shall be deemed an inhabitant occupier thereof as tenant notwithstanding his temporary absence therefrom in the execution of duty as a police officer during a part of the qualifying period, not exceeding four consecutive months.

Saving as to  
section 8  
of 17 & 18  
Vict. c. 102.

4. Provided always, that this Act shall not operate to extend the benefit of the eighth section of the Corrupt Practices Prevention Act, 1854, to any person becoming entitled to vote by virtue of this Act.

Short title.

5. This Act may be cited as the Irish Police Enfranchisement Bill, 1893.

SCHEDULE.

A.D. 1893.

Session and Chapter.	Title.	Extent of Repeal.
48 Geo. 3. c. 140.  5  10	An Act for the more effectual prevention of felonies within the district of Dublin Metropolis.	Section fifteen, the words "shall," "during the time that he shall" "continue in his office or within" "six calendar months after he" "shall have quitted the same, be" "capable of giving his vote for" "the election of a member to serve" "in Parliament for the county of" "Dublin or the city of Dublin," "respectively, nor."
6 & 7 Will. 4. c. 13.  15  20	An Act to consolidate the laws relating to the Constabulary Force in Ireland.	Section eighteen, "shall during the" "time that he shall continue in" "any such office, or within six" "calendar months after he shall" "have quitted the same, be capable" "of giving his vote for the elec-" "tion of a member to serve in" "Parliament for any county, city," "borough, town, or place in" "Ireland, nor."

# Irish Police Enfranchisement.

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Irish Constabulary and the Dublin  
Metropolitan Police to vote at  
Parliamentary Elections

(Proposed and brought in by  
Col. Edward Clarke, *Financial Secretary*,  
Mr. Connelley, Mr. Butler, Mr. F. W. Russell,  
Capt. Morris, Col. Murray, Mr. Peter Lee,  
Mr. Richard Smith, Mr. Johnson,  
Mr. Butler, Mr. Williams, and  
Mr. Wm. Henry)

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11 March 1883

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